

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-24 (canceled).

Claim 25. (currently amended) An apparatus for producing consumable products having an outer shell comprising:

    a mold containing an edible consumable material;

    a water-cooled ram having an axial bore;

    the water-cooled ram is configured to selectively move into and out of the mold between a first position and a second position for at least partially forming an outer shell from the edible consumable material;

    a displacement ram movably mounted within the axial bore of the water-cooled ram; and

    the displacement ram is configured to selectively move within the axial bore of the water-cooled ram when the water-cooled ram is in the second position between a first position wherein a space is formed at a vertex end of the water-cooled ram and an end of the displacement ram and a second position wherein the end of the displacement ram is in a plane with the vertex end of the water-cooled ram to expel air inclusions ~~from the edible consumable material~~ when the water-cooled ram is in the second position.

Claim 26. (currently amended) An apparatus for producing consumable products having an outer shell comprising:

a mold containing a consumable chocolate material;  
a water-cooled ram having a vertex region and an axial bore communicating with the vertex region;  
the water-cooled ram is configured to selectively move into and out of the mold between a first position and a second position for at least partially forming an outer shell from the consumable chocolate material;  
~~a tube located within the axial bore and communicating with the mold;~~  
a source of gas ~~at ambient temperature~~ connected to the tube; and  
the gas ~~at ambient temperature~~ from the source communicates through the ~~tube~~ axial bore and into the mold for displacing an amount of consumable chocolate material when the water-cooled ram is in the second position.

Claim 27. (previously presented) An apparatus for producing consumable products having an outer shell comprising:

a mold containing an edible consumable material;  
a water-cooled ram comprising an internal space and a flexible sheath surrounding the internal space;  
the water-cooled ram is configured to selectively move into and out of the mold between a first position and a second position for at least partially forming an outer shell from the edible consumable material;  
a source of cooling water under pressure; means for adjusting the pressure of the cooling water from a pressure  $P_1$  to a pressure  $P_2$  wherein  $P_2$  is greater than  $P_1$ ; and  
the cooling water under pressure  $P_1$  communicates with the internal space of the water-cooled ram to expand the flexible sheath within the mold for displacing an amount of edible consumable material when the water-cooled ram is in the second

position and thereafter the cooling water under pressure  $P_2$  communicates with the internal space to further displace the edible consumable material.

Claim 28. (previously presented) An apparatus for producing consumable products having an outer shell comprising:

a mold containing an edible consumable material;

a water-cooled ram having a vertex region and comprising an internal space and a shell of rigid material surrounding the internal space, the shell is provided with a passage at the vertex region which communicates the internal space with the mold when the water-cooled ram is located in the mold, said passage is covered by a diaphragm;

the water-cooled ram is configured to selectively move into and out of the mold between a first position and a second position for at least partially forming an outer shell from the edible consumable material;

a source of cooling water under pressure; and

the cooling water under pressure communicates with the internal space of the water-cooled ram for expanding the diaphragm at the vertex region of the water-cooled ram into the mold for displacing an amount of edible consumable material when the water-cooled ram is in the second position.